

NOMENCLATORIAL NOTE ON A
SOUTH AMERICAN ORCHID

BY

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The following note is the result of intensive studies on the orchid flora of Peru.

Batemannia Colleyi *Lindley* in Bot. Reg. 20 (1834) t. 1714—W.J. Hooker in Bot. Mag. 67 (1840) t. 3818—Cogniaux in Martius Fl. Bras. 3, pt. 5 (1902) 473, t. 94, fig. 1.

Lycaste Colleyi Hort. ex J. E. Planchon Hort. Donat. (1855) 16.

Maxillaria Colleyi Hort. ex J. E. Planchon Hort. Donat. (1855) 16.

Petronia regia Rodrigues Gen. et Sp. Orch. Nov. 1 (1877) 107.

Batemanian Petronia Rodrigues in Vellosia ed. 2, 1 (1891) 131.

Batemanian peruviana Rolfe in Kew Bull. (1895) 193.

Except for *Batemanian peruviana*, all of the foregoing concepts have already been reduced to *B. Colleyi*.

On the evidence of a photograph of the type of *Batemanian peruviana*, together with the description, it is apparent that this concept is also reducible to *B. Colleyi* as beautifully delineated in the Botanical Register, t. 1714. There is in general no morphological difference between these concepts. *B. Colleyi* is described and shown as having oblong-spatulate lateral sepals, whereas these parts are oblong in *B. peruviana*. However, this "spatulate" appearance in the case of *B. Colleyi* is undoubtedly due to the subconduplicate lower portion of the lateral sepals—a character which is also ascribed to *B.*

peruviana. Moreover, the several collections of *B. Colleyi* in the Ames Herbarium from British Guiana (the type locality of that species) and from nearby Trinidad show lateral sepals which are truly oblong and not in any sense spatulate when expanded. Furthermore, the alleged color of the flowers appears to be very similar in the two concepts.

Considerable variation in size of the floral segments is shown by specimens of *Batemannia Colleyi* from British Guiana, Trinidad and Brazil. Indeed recent collections from Peru exhibit even larger flowers which are often more fleshy in consistency. One Peruvian collection, *Klug 1441*, has somewhat narrower petals than usual and approximates the form depicted in the Botanical Magazine t. 3818.

Since the original spelling of the genus is *Batemannia*, it is in the spirit of modern practice to conserve this spelling, even considering the fact that the spelling *Batemanian* was pointed out as orthographically preferable by Endlicher in 1836.

This species appears to be rather widespread throughout northern South America, having been recorded from British Guiana (type), Trinidad, Brazil and Peru.